

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 23.—NO. 1.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1911.

8 PAGES

FIRE BOYS DO EFFECTIVE WORK

The first real test of the efficiency of our waterworks system and the ability of our volunteer fire department came last Friday morning when the fire bell pealed the alarm and the house of W. R. Provine was discovered in flames.

The fire boys made a quick response and good run of about four blocks but upon their arrival the kitchen and bath room of the home were enveloped in flames and it seemed that the entire dwelling was doomed. Two hose connections were made and Chief Cauthen's fire fighters kept two streams with a pressure which registered 105 pounds playing on the fire and in but a few minutes the fire was under control and later entirely extinguished. Of course there was great damage by fire, smoke and water to that part of the home saved but it was a good demonstration of the fire-fighting ability of our fire boys and the good of our system. A visitor from Abilene made the comment that he never saw such a pressure. An insurance inspector who was in the city saw the fire and complimented our boys and our system. W. E. Brittain who has charge of the city plant had both of the large engines going to furnish this pressure in a few moments from the first sound of the alarm and before the fire boys made the connection.

The dwelling was occupied by W. M. McDuff and family and Mrs. McDuff was sick in bed at the time of the conflagration.

The origin of the flames is unknown.

Merkel Colt Brings \$200.00.

If this is not the best stock country this side of the moon we are in a total eclipse, and there is so much evidence that it pays best to raise the best stock that we wonder why there is a scrub in the world.

One day this week L. D. Gaither parted with his two-year-old black colt for a consideration of \$200 in cash. It goes without saying that this was a Merkel country grown animal, raised by B. C. Gaither and is but one of many he bred and raised which brought fancy prices. We remember the Rex Dillard animal of the same Rattler Brooks and Hamiltonian stock which he sold for \$500 and the animal sold for \$600 to the next buyer.

The horse sold this week made his own in a pasture until last summer when taken up and then he looked that he was not worth the feed it would take to put him in shape. But blood tells in horses the same as in the human race and the purchaser Dr. Geo. L. Miller is one of the best horse masters and judges of horse flesh in our city. He is elated over his purchase and it is certain that he got his money's worth.

Raise good stock, horses, cows, jacks and hogs.

Patronize G. M. Sharp's exclusive Grain Store and get the best of everything.

MERKEL AS A TRADE CENTER

The opening next month of a new mercantile establishment with ample capital and cash to do a general cash and credit business places our town in first place as a trade center.

It is doubtful if there is any town the size of Merkel in this part of the state with a stronger line-up of merchants and business men. In the past two years which have been hard ones and a test of the metal and credit of our business people they have been equal to the emergencies and not found wanting. Now, that the recent bountiful rains have given us a good season and prospect for the beginning of another crop year there will be renewed interest manifested in trade circles. It is certain that our town is situated in the very heart of about one hundred square miles of the best agricultural country in this part of the state and it is the purpose of our bankers and merchants to have and to hold that trade which rightly belongs to them and to extend and enlarge our trade territory.

There is every reason to believe that their co-operative efforts will result successfully for they have every advantage. Merkel is not a boom town but a permanent and stable agricultural trading point with church, school, social and civic advantages which guarantee its permanency. Our rents are reasonable and our merchants with ample cash and good credit can go into the markets and buy as cheap as any and by reason of lower expenses sell cheaper for cash or credit properly secured.

The Mail was twenty-two years old last week and can give testimony that when conditions justify the effort there are no more liberal, progressive and aggressive business firms or better judicious advertisers than these doing business here.

It is our candid opinion that a farmer can lay in a stock of general supplies, anything and everything used in the home or on the farm, making the entire bill with our local merchants and make a considerable saving in comparison with other and larger trade centers.

At any rate we ask you read what they have to offer, make the comparisons yourself and give them an opportunity to prove worthy of your regular patronage. Make Merkel your trading point for the year nineteen-eleven.

MODERN AWNING FOR DRUG STORE

The latest firm or property owner to discard the old-style high awning for the new modern hanging which makes such an improvement for the appearance of the outside of a building and for better light on the inside is the Armstrong & Company drug store.

The inside of this already attractive place is to keep in harmony with the outside improvement and an order has been placed for new show cases and fixtures which will make the entire furniture of the front to match.

The contract for the new awning was let this week to Contractor Christopher and the work is to be started at once.

Merkel Country Jack, \$500.

A Merkel country grown jack, raised by J. N. Teaff was sold this week to A. M. McDonald of Abilene for \$500 cash, and it can be truthfully stated that the owner parted with the animal reluctantly. If our readers remember, the mule colt which sold for \$75 00 cash at five months old was from this animal and an offer of \$90 00 since for the same colt was refused. This is the best mule and hog country. Raise 'em.

Amber Cane Seed at G. M. Sharp's Grain Store.

At the Presbyterian Church.

Sunday morning at 11 o'clock the pastor will discourse on a subject appropriate to the young people. 7:30 p. m. the services will be Evangelistic. Let every one be at Sunday school 10 a. m. The slogan is "One Million in the Sunday schools of Texas" February 26. Come and bring somebody with you.

Geo. A. Crane, Pastor.

Dr. Cox's Barbed Wire Lini- ment does not burn or blister, relieves pain quickly and flies will not bother the wound. For sale by all druggists.

Car Texas Red Rust-Proof seed oats at G. M. Sharp's Grain Store.

THREE CARLOADS DRY GOODS ARRIVE

Three big box cars full of dry goods have been consigned to Merkel for the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company, two of which have been received and are being unloaded. The other car shipped from St. Louis is expected within the next week or ten days when the company will be prepared to put their store in readiness for business.

The stock of groceries was bought this week at Abilene and shipment promptly made. The firm hopes to be able to begin business about the first of the month.

HOME TALENT PLAY BENEFIT FIREMEN

The attention of our readers is directed to the advertisement of the home talent play, to be staged at the opera house Friday night, March 3rd.

The play is produced under the direction of Frank Ferrier with home talent for our home fire boys. The play is a story of frontier life as the name suggests, "The Girl from 'L Triangle' Ranch" and promises to furnish an evening's entertainment worthy of the small price of admission.

The local dramatic company has received the assistance of our best talent as well as the financial assistance of our merchants and the enterprise promises to be a success in every sense. Remember the date.

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel Tex. for week ending Feb. 25, 1911:

Ayers, W. F.
Biggum, J. R.
Ballard, Miss Lorena
Gowns, P. F.
Hall, F. H.
Hall, Mrs. Maud.
If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Mar. 11, 1911.

H. W. Derstine, P. M.

Come to W. M. Jenkins on Edwards street for cheap goods and high prices for produce. tf

A COPIOUS RAIN SOAKS COUNTRY

It drizzled!

Then it rained!!

And at last it poured!!!

All of this, gentle reader, happened in the Merkel country and it is wet from the top of the ground straight down sixty feet where you strike our natural never-failing supply of artesian water and from Merkel in the center in all directions to the edges of the universe.

The first rain of one-half inch which received such prominent mention in these columns a couple of weeks ago and then the one-inch rain a week later were but preliminaries making ready for the real thing which began at eleven o'clock last Friday morning. In was one continuous performance for nineteen long hours until six o'clock the next morning and the total precipitation was measured by our most conscientious and conservative citizens of our several communities at from two and one-half to three and one-half inches, making a record for the month of February of approximately five inches of rain for the Merkel country which gives us the best season and prospects of many years.

It was a beautiful and bountiful downpour. It was one of those regular drift-moving, gully-washing, ground-soaking, river-widening, lake-filling rains you read about but seldom see. It is more, a grass-grower, wheat-whooper, oat-maker and almost crop-insurer without the charge of a premium to our enterprising farmers. It was a bile-buster and liver regulator, curing our worst dyspeptics and making full fledged boosters of the chronic-croakers. The drouth of two years which affected all of the state is now a thing of past and all eyes are on the promising future. The Merkel country, with ten to twenty thousand acres sown to small grain and the rest of the land in a first class state of cultivation and ready for planting the other feed and cotton crops starts the season with good prospects.

Our farmers are happy and hopeful and there is a feeling of full confidence among all of our people.

Telegram is Suspended (?)

The Mail is requested to make the announcement that our esteemed contemporary, The Merkel Telegram has been suspended until further notice. There will be no issue of that paper this week or for several maybe but when it is issued it will be an extra edition consisting of 120 pages, red, white and blue ink for there was born to the good editor and lady this week a very charming young girl, one of the loveliest babies in the city and there is no time for the tiresome routine work of the newspaper shop. Congratulations by the column.

We have opened a mule and horse barn on Front street. We will buy and sell mules and horses and also will handle feed stuffs. Jones & Warnick. 14

Armstrong & Co.

JIM GILLIAM, Manager

Edwards Street Merkel, Texas

OUR SODA FOUNTAIN

Mr. Virgil Touchstone, an experienced cold-drink man, will have charge of our fountain which insures for our trade the best of goods and service. Drink at our fountain and make our cigar case your "smoke house." If you do not drink nor smoke, just come around to see us, we will appreciate a social call at any time.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Elijah Meets Ahab in Naboth's Vineyard.
I. Kings xxi.

The incident of Naboth's vineyard is one of the most striking in the whole range of literature. On the inky background of his foul plot, the characters of Ahab and Jezebel, Naboth and Elijah, stand in clear outline. It is a study in ethics and psychology. But the incident has a larger religious and political significance. He who looks upon it as a merely personal affair misses the mark. There is a greater reason for its introduction in these sacred annals. First, it illustrates in most vivid manner, and proves conclusively, the utter and despicable moral worthlessness of the dynasty then in power. Ahab asked Naboth to do something which he knew to be contrary to the law in stead of honoring him for his conscientious refusal, he killed him. Not, however, openly, but in the ambush of a hypocritical conspiracy. He broke the Decalogue. He coveted and killed. It increases rather this foul deed Ahab put the period to his crime, that he did it by proxy. He turned the affair over to his unscrupulous wife, perfectly satisfied that her devilish cunning would compass the desired end. He made immodest haste to avail himself of the fruits of the crime. By this foul deed Ahab put the period of his personal probation and that of his dynasty. For a last time, and on the very scene of his supposed triumph, Ahab's Nemesis, Elijah, appears to speak his doom and that of his house * * * In this circumstance Naboth stands forth as a type and fruit of the silent and steady reformation now in progress. Those who imagine that Naboth refused the king's request upon personal grounds—viz., attachment to his ancestral estate—miss the mark. Naboth's reason was a religious one. It was contrary to the law of God as given by Moses to alienate for any consideration the property originally designat-

ed to the family by lot, the casting of which God determined. It did not matter to Naboth that this law was so generally neglected. In fact, that was additional reason for his regarding it. His course would be exemplary and corrective. He was perfectly aware of his personal peril in refusing the request of such a king as Ahab. But his first allegiance was to the king of heaven. He will obey God rather than man. If he must die, his death will hasten the reformation, which he desires above life itself. History does not afford a more genuine instance of martyrdom than that of Naboth.—Rev. D. W. Clark in the Commercial Appeal.

Pro Mass Meeting.

All who favor the adoption of the Prohibition Amendment to the Constitution of Texas and the banishment of the saloon from the State should begin active work to bring about that result. Organization is necessary if we would attain the desired end, and for the purpose of effecting an organization of the Prohibition forces of Taylor county, a mass meeting of all friends of prohibition is hereby called to convene at the Court House in Abilene, at 2 o'clock p. m., Saturday, February 25, 1911. Every precinct in the county is requested and urged to send representatives to this meeting. A. H. Kirby, Chm. for Taylor County.

Life on Panama Canal

has had one frightful drawback—malaria trouble that has brought suffering and death to thousands. The germs cause chills, fever and ague, biliousness, jaundice, lassitude, weakness and general debility. But Electric Bitters never fail to destroy them and cure malaria troubles. "Three bottles completely cured me of a very severe attack of Malaria," writes Wm A. Fretwell, of Lucama, N. C., "and I've had good health ever since." Cure stomach, liver and kidney troubles, and prevent typhoid. 50c Guaranteed by H C Burroughs

The Story of a Dollar Bill.

"Ten yeras ago a farmer put his initials on a dollar bill. The next day he went to the nearest town and spent it with a merchant. Before the year was out he got the dollar back. Four times in six years the dollar came back to him for produce and three times he heard of it in the pockets of his neighbors.

"The last time he got it back, four years ago, he sent it to a mail order house. He never has seen that dollar since, and never will. That dollar bill will never pay any more school tax for him, will never build or brighten any of the houses of the community. He sent it entirely out of the circle of usefulness to himself and his neighbors when he sent it to a mail order house.

"Patronize your local merchant who helps you pay your taxes, supports your school and churches and lends a helping hand in times of sickness and trouble."—Waco Times-Herald.

Local Institute.

To be held at Center Point, Saturday, March 4, 1911. The influence of good books upon pupils.—Mr. Hendrix, Miss Anna Clack.

How many libraries be used with advantage to class room work?—Miss Lochie Sutphen, Miss Taylor.

A feasible plan by which libraries may be procured for rural schools.—E. V. White.

What kind of books should be placed in a library?—Mrs. Davenport.

Suggestions for taking care of a library during school and during vacation.—Miss DuBose, Mr. Hudgins.

How may parents encourage libraries?—By any trustee or patron.

What can be done in your school during this year toward securing books?—All.

The meeting will be called to order promptly at 10:15 o'clock.

The question to be discussed at this time is one that vitally concerns the pupil and the school, and I trust that each teacher will urge the presence of his patrons and trustees. One of the principal objects of our local institutes is to bring the people into closer co-operation with the school. Kindly remind them that there will be no afternoon session. The county superintendent will be at the schoolhouse at 9 o'clock for the purpose of approving reports and vouchers. Teachers who find it impossible to attend must make affidavit to their vouchers and reports before they can be approved.

E. V. White, Co., Supt.

The Best Hour of Life

is when you do some great deed or discover some wonderful fact. This hour came to J. R. Pitt, of Rocky Mt., N. C. when he was suffering intensely, as he says, "from the worst cold I ever had. I then proved to my great satisfaction, what a wonderful cold and cough cure Dr. Kings New Discovery is. For after taking one bottle, I was entirely cured. You can't say anything too good of a medicine like that." Its the surest and best remedy for diseased lungs hemorrhages, La-Grippe, asthma, hay fever—any throat or lung trouble. 50c. \$1.00 Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by H C Burroughs

County Court Convenes.

The February term of County Court convened at nine o'clock Monday morning with Hon T. A. Bledsoe, judge, presiding. The jury for the week was empaneled as follows: O. M. Childers, J. T. Tarpley, H. M. Rainbolt, S. C. Eager, T. J. Poe, W. A. Campbell, C. B. Hunt, J. S. Clayton, J. H. Woody, Ben F. Nesbitt, E. T. Thompson, R. V. Bigham, G. L. Miller and W. F. Peebles.

In the forenoon two cases were disposed of, as follows:

State vs. Jim Williams, charged with disturbing the peace, plea of guilty and fined \$1 and costs.

State vs. John Taylor, charged with carrying knucks, plea of guilty and fined \$100 and costs.

State vs. Rex and Ran Reddall, charged with disturbing public worship at Coates, jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

Baby Hands

will get into mischief—often it means a burn or cut or scald. Apply Ballard's Snow Liniment just as soon as the accident happens, and the pain will be relieved while the wound will heal quickly and nicely. A sure cure for sprains, rheumatism and all pains. Price 25c, 50c, and \$1.00 a bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Lineman Is Killed.

Fort Worth, Feb. 21.—F. M. Barton, 28, a Southwestern Telephone Co. lineman, was electrocuted Saturday morning by coming in contact with a live wire of the Fort Worth Light and Power Company at the corner of Peter Smith and Clarence streets, 2,300 volts passing through his body. Barton's lifeless body hung across the wire for nearly an hour before it was removed.

A Shaking Up

may all be very well so far as the trusts are concerned, but not when it comes to chills and fever and malaria. Quit the quinine and take a real cure—Ballard's Herbine. Contains no harmful and is as certain as taxes. If it doesn't cure, you got your money back. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Oats and Corn

We have ordered and should receive and have on track this week a car of No. 2 shelled corn and another car of those pure Texas Red Rust-proof seed oats. We can not be undersold on grain and groceries and pay a little more for your produce

B. C. GAITHER & SONS

Phone 80 MERKEL'S RELIABLE GROCERS Phone 80

J. S. SWANN, President
T. J. WILLIAMSON, Vice-Pres.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier
B. C. MOORE, Asst. Cashier

No. 366

Farmers State Bank

TRENT, TEXAS

Capital Stock \$15,000.00

When you borrow money at the bank don't you have to secure them for their money?

When you deposit your money with them do they give you any security for same? If not, deposit your money in this bank where it is protected by the Guaranty Fund operating under the laws of Texas. A depositor has never lost a dollar in a state bank in Texas.

IT'S BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY.

PATE'S RESTAURANT

MRS. J. M. PATE, Proprietor

Meals served regularly, three times daily, only 25 cents. Short orders any hour of day. The best of service at reasonable prices and we solicit your patronage.

WHEN IN TOWN COME TO SEE US



YOUR WATCH

There is no instrument made from which is expected so much as from a watch. Its tiny balance making 18,000 vibrations every hour, day and night, year in and year out, must have care and attention. That's my business. Give me the opportunity: that's your business. You know me. S. S. SCHEIDLER, Opposite P.O.

Scramble for Normal.

Brownwood, Feb. 19.—Strong delegations of citizens from Brownwood, San Angelo, Coleman, Dublin and Cisco left tonight for Austin, where they will enter an indignant protest at the manner in which the Abilene normal bill is being put through the legislature.

The bill, as passed by the house, locates the proposed normal school at Abilene without giving other towns in this section

an opportunity to offer inducements for it.

Staggers Skeptic.

That clean, nice, fragrant com-sound like Bucklen's Arnica Salve will instantly relieve a bad burn, cut, scald, wound or piles, staggers skeptics. But great cures prove its a wonderful healer of the worst sores, ulcers, boils, felons, eczema, skin eruptions, as also chapped hands, sprains and corns. Try it 25c at H C Burroughs

THE ONLY THING FATHER TIME BUILDS



DOLLARS GROW WHEN PLACED IN OUR BANK
Copyright 1909, by C. E. Zimmerman Co.—No. 1

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Now is Planting Time

And just as sure as the great oak from the little acorn grows your small savings deposited in this bank will accumulate and make you absolutely independent and master of your own situation. Then, like the oak which withstands the storms you are prepared for financial disturbances, anchored safely, and just by the cultivation of the habit of thrift and economy. Start now and let us help you. We are always at your service.

C. L. BARKER, Pres.

J. E. FAUCETT, Cashier

THE TEXAS & PACIFIC TELEPHONE COMPANY

Have the only lines that connect with all the Exchanges between Abilene and Big Springs. Also we own exchanges in all the towns between Abilene and Big Springs, and we are prepared to give prompt service at any time. No waiting for your party. Through copper lines

Connection at Abilene With the Roberts and Southwestern Telephone Companies

J. A. WOODARD Livery, Feed and Sale Stable SOUTH SIDE

Solicits a share of your patronage during the New Year and promises courteous treatment. Phone No. 44. Opposite T. & P. Depot.

MERKEL : : : : TEXAS

FAMILYLITE OIL

The safest oil manufactured for
HOUSEHOLD USE

Best for Cooking, Lighting and Heating

For Sale by All Dealers

MADE ONLY BY

The Texas Company

GENERAL OFFICES: HOUSTON, TEX.

PRACTICAL DRAUGHON'S Business College

More BANKERS indorse DRAUGHON'S Colleges than indorse all other business colleges COMBINED. Positions Guaranteed. National reputation. Address either Abilene, Texas or Sweetwater, Texas.

Go to the City Barber Shop for first-class work. West & Evans, Proprietors. Come to W. M. Jenkins on Edwards street for cheap goods and high prices for produce. tf

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

All kinds of fresh fruits and nuts at the Elite.

Chas. Edwards of Midland was a business visitor in Merkel Sunday.

S. D. Marlow is able to be up after being confined to his bed three weeks with kidney trouble.

Miss Sallie Orr of Putnam is visiting friends and relatives here this week.

The only high grade candies, always fresh. The Elite.

Cashier T. A. Johnson of the Farmers & Merchants Bank made a short business visit to Dallas this week.

E. L. Woodroof of the Woodroof Bros. store at Waxachie was among the visitors to our city the first of the week.

Mrs. J. W. Ferguson and daughter have returned to their home in Brandon, after visiting the family of S. D. Marlow.

Powell the painter this week finished some painting which added to the attraction of the front of the Farmers & Merchants bank building.

Lester Ellis has a position in the drug store of H. C. Burroughs. His friends who are glad to know that he will remain in the city are invited to visit him at his new place.

C. L. Barker, president of the First National Bank left last week for an extended trip through the north and east on business. He will visit Omaha, Chicago, New York and other cities before returning home.

As a household remedy for cuts, burns, bruises, piles, pain and soreness of all kinds, Dr. Cox's Barbed Wire Liniment, 25c size, has no equal. If not satisfactory, money refunded. For sale by all druggists.

There is a diversity of opinion regarding the amount of damage to the fruit crop by the recent cold spell, some contending that the freeze killed the fruit and others that it did more benefit than damage. We do not know.

W. A. Coggin was here this week and contending that Post City was the best town in the world, the city in clover not excepted. He would not take it back, so we lifted a dollar for the Buzz-Saw and let him go.

J. A. Woodard has just had finished a new coating of paint for the roof on his residence which greatly adds to the appearance of the place.

HOME ENDORSEMENT.

Hundreds of Merkel Citizens Can Tell you About It.

Home endorsement, the public expression of merkel people should be evidence beyond dispute for every merkel reader. Surley the experience of friends and neighbors, cheerfully given by them, will carry more weight than the utterances of strangers residing in faraway places. Read the following:

W. T. Cox, farmer, of Merkel, says: "About two years ago I was suddenly taken ill while at work and as I steadily grew worse I consulted a doctor. He pronounced my trouble congestion of the kidneys and in several days relieved me. After that, however, I was bothered by too frequent passages of the kidney secretions. I spent over \$150 in an effort to get relief and took 8 months treatment from a specialist in Dallas but to no avail. The contents of one box of Doan's kidney Pills, procured at Rust & McCauley's drug store did me a world of good, and I am, therefore, glad to give them my endorsement."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

The amount of new goods purchased and being received by the Merkel merchants shows the confidence of our business people in our country and prospects. All stores are receiving new goods and making ready for a good business during the spring and summer season.

IF YOU KNEW

the merits of Hall's Texas Wonder, you would never suffer from Kidney, Bladder or Rheumatic trouble. \$1.00 per bottle is 60 days treatment, seldom one bottle fails to cure. Send for testimonials. Dr. E. W. Hall, Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo. Sold by Druggist.

W. Parten returned the first of the week from St. Louis where he purchased the largest spring and summer stock handled since he established his successful cash store.

For That Terrible Itching.

Eczema, tetter and salt rheum keep their victims in perpetual torment. The application of Chamberlain's Salve will instantly allay this itching, and many cases have been cured by its use. For Sale by Rust & McCauley Co.

Mrs. J. R. Dye is expecting the arrival of a sister this week from Kentucky and anticipates her visit with much joy from the fact that they have not been together for nineteen long years.

"The Girl from 'L Triangle' Ranch," Benefit Fire Boys.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Groene's Art Store. Open 8 to 6; and 8 to 10 on Saturdays.

Miss Jessie Sutphen is at home from Dora.

Miss Olga Sheppard is back from Fort Worth and Dallas.

The best of cold drinks and always ice cold. The Elite.

Mattilyn and Deyo Hunt children of Mr. and Mrs. C. Hunt are sick this week.

Miss Mattie Murphy was an Abilene visitor Saturday and Sunday visiting home folks.

Mary, the little child of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Comegys is quite sick this week.

FOR SALE.—A stylish trap, good as new and will sell to responsible party on fall time. Stf Mrs. E. M. Rust

Mrs. Doss Sheppard and little daughter are guests of Judge and Mrs. W. T. Potter this week.

Don't fail to see W. M. Jenkins on Edwards street for cheap goods and best prices for your produce. tf

Mrs. Chas. H. Blann of Leonard returned to her home last week after a delightful visit with her sister, Mrs. L. H. King.

Demonstrating double disc records, free for owners of phonographs—only pay for express. The Elite.

Mrs. R. T. Pence and little sons of Marshall, Missouri, left last Thursday after a very pleasant winter's visit with their parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Williams and other relatives.

Dr. Cox's Painless Blister, price 50c. Guaranteed to blister without pain or money refunded. For sale by all druggists. \$

Virgil Touchstone has accepted a position and taken charge of the soda fountain at Armstrong & Company. "Tut" is a popular young man and invites the patronage of his friends.

Can wear your Barrett day and night. If stuck with Scheidler's "stick 'em tight"

Costs a dime, can do no better. Leave it when you mail your letter. Opposite P. O. 10th

Farmers are still hauling out and sowing seed oats and we believe that 15,000 acres is a conservative estimate of the acreage in the Merkel country sown to small grain.

All druggists sell Dr. Cox's Barbed Wire Liniment, 25c, 50c and \$1 bottles. Guaranteed to heal without leaving a blemish, or money refunded. \$

MERKEL

GOOD HOMES; GOOD SCHOOLS,
GOOD CHURCHES; GOOD PEOPLE;
THE CITY TO LIVE IN,
THE CITY TO INVEST IN

THE MERKEL COUNTRY,
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE YOUNG MAN,
GOOD HEALTH FOR THE OLD MAN,
EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POOR MAN,
NESTMENTS FOR THE RICH MAN
PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

A New Creation in the Food Line

DR. PRICE'S ALGRAIN FOOD

The blending of WHEAT, OATS, RICE and BARLEY into a food is a new creation by Dr. Price, the Pure Food Producer. It is one of the best breakfast or every day foods ever made. Dr. Price believes that the enlightened public accepts nothing permanently but quality. Once this food is eaten it will be appreciated. Ask your grocer.

The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED
J. G. JACKSON, Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE
Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second Class Mail Matter

Any erroneous reflection on the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Mail will be gladly corrected upon its being brought to the attention of the management.

TELEPHONE No. 61

If you have visitors, or if you know any item which would be of interest to readers of The Mail, the editor would appreciate a note or a telephone message to that effect. Or, if an occurrence of unusual interest transpires, a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars.

"Back to the Farm" is the order of the day in Merkel and a number of our citizens have answered the call. It's the happiest and most independent life and in this country the most profitable. One hundred acres of land, a couple of good big mares, a few jersey cows, good brood sows and then a nice flock of fowls and the rest in brain and brawn makes a capital stock with a guaranteed dividend every year. We had rather be a Merkel country farmer than anything else in the world except editor of the Buzz-Saw. Come to Merkel.

It is most always the case with the man you hear talking about the good old days long ago or the easy times way back yonder where he came from, that he was raised on corn bread and bacon and went in his shirt tail until he was grown. Now is the best time and a better time is coming. The world is getting better and brighter every day, but the opportunities are for the man of the present not the past, the doer and not the dreamer. Wake up and get busy.

Before you criticize the teacher of your boy or girl, get acquainted with the real conditions and not voice your opinion as to her right to a place on the faculty until you have heard both sides of the question. You are doing your children as well as the teacher, an injustice when you do. Teachers are greatly handicapped without the moral support and encouragement of parents.—Brownwood Bulletin.

The Texas Industrial Congress, which has its headquarters at Dallas, offers a first prize of \$2,500 in gold to the farmers securing the largest yields from ten acres of cotton. Assuming that it will take four months to grow his crop the fortunate winner will be paid at the rate of more than \$20 per day for his labor—and he will have his crop besides.

A big new merchandise store with new stock and plenty of capital to furnish the needs of our farmers and all of our other old merchants having bought big spring and summer stocks makes us predict that this will be the best trading point in this section the coming season. Trade at Merkel.

It is now as ever the duty of every good citizen to speak and write encouragingly of our town and country. Tell your good friends and the old folks back at home about the Merkel country in your letters, and invite them to come out and share with us the progress and prosperity which seems so promising.

Over five hundred tons of water, five inches to be exact have fallen on every acre of land in this country within the last three weeks. Oh yes, the Merkel country has gone wet.

When you clean up your premises and plant a few shade trees and roses you set an example for your neighbor. March 10th and 11th.

MUST ADVERTISE.

The business men of the small towns are learning what the business man of the large towns have known for a long time—that it is impossible under modern conditions to achieve a considerable success without the aid of publicity. These days everybody reads, and everybody reads advertising, for the advertising columns are the clearing house of retail business. The women do the buying for the home and family, and they are all readers of advertising, because they have learned that advertising not only saves them money but time and labor as well. People who do not read do not have money enough to make their trade worth striving for. Men who go into business now must either be willing and able to advertise intelligently or go out.—Dallas News.

Too many merchants, though, figure advertising as an expense, and not a necessity, and at the first opportunity cut it out, often at the very time, when their business most needs advertising.—Brownwood Bulletin.

The biggest and most successful merchants are liberal newspaper patrons. Advertising is not only an expense, but is the shrewd man's biggest source of revenue when judiciously used.—Cleburne Enterprise.

The merchant or other business man who learns well the lesson of advertising and applies it judiciously will soon be able to discern the difference between a real expense item and his advertising account. There are good merchants who refuse to advertise and say their trade is good enough without it. They simply do business in spite of their seclusiveness. What might they do with proper publicity.—Anson Enterprise.

Nufsed.

NEW CHARTERS AND ELEPHANTS.

The Mail is somewhat surprised that the new city charter of Abilene did not propose to take in the City of Clover. They passed up a good bet and when we apply for a new charter we will claim Tye.—Merkel Mail.

Didn't want an elephant on our hands.—Abilene Morning News.

Beg pardon, but did not you mean to say "any more elephants?"

Some people are planting their money in old Mexico and ride by better opportunities in the Merkel country where we never "revolute." Our lands pay regular annual dividends besides the guaranteed increase in value from year to year and now is the time and opportunity to invest.

The play at the opera house on the night of March 3rd is for the benefit of the local volunteer fire department and is worthy of the patronage of all patriotic citizens. See "The Girl from 'L Triangle' Ranch." It will be worth your money, besides.

Remember that March 10th and 11th are clean-up days in Merkel and then do your part to make the campaign a success. A clean city means a healthy city and a more attractive place in the eyes of a prospector looking for a home.

Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,
Their homely joys and destiny obscure;
Nor Grandeur hear, with a disdainful smile
The short and simple annals of the poor.
—Gray.

The banks and our postoffice celebrated the birthday of the Father of Our Country and many of our citizens planted a few more shade trees.

Plant the shade trees, begin work on the garden and yard and make ready to swat the fly. Spring time is coming.

Ironing Day

We wish to announce to the users of our Electric Irons that our plant will be operated for their use every

Thursday Morning

rain or shine. The iron is but one of the many electrical conveniences and labor-savers. If you have electricity and no iron let us sell you one; if no electricity then let us wire your house.

Merkel Electric Co.

W. E. BRITAIN, Manager

Learn BOOKKEEPING

We teach the ACTUAL BUSINESS methods from the start to finish. Each student has individual sets of books and gets individual instruction. We guarantee to make a first-class bookkeeper of you or refund your money. A course in salesmanship free to those who take the bookkeeping course.

SHORTHAND

Learn to write Shorthand. We teach the celebrated Modern Method of Shorthand, which is the best in use today. Also Graham or Pitman. We can prepare you in a short time to be an expert Shorthand writer. We teach the touch system of typewriting, which is far ahead of any other system.

TELEGRAPHY

Thousands of telegraph operators needed. There is no calling that offers such sure promotion and certain success as telegraphy. We have the best equipped telegraphy department in the South, expert teachers, and direct main line connection with railroad companies (in fact, our college is now the official training school of the M., K. & T. Railway System), affording an abundance of practical work for our students. Now is the time to begin.

Special rates now on. Will give you more for your money than any other college. Every national bank in Fort Worth represented on our board of directors. Good positions absolutely guaranteed.

Brantley-Draughan Business College

Corner Fourteenth and Main Sts. Fort Worth, Texas

Raise Pure Bred Hogs

We have a plan whereby any farmer boy will be enabled to start in the hog business with pure bred hogs without a cent of cost. The plan is simple and successful and offers an excellent opportunity for any boy on the farm who wants to earn money of his own. Only a few boys in each county will be given an opportunity, and the ones who reply early will be the lucky ones. For full particulars address

Citizen-Star, Fort Worth, Texas

ABILENE HOSPITAL

Corner Osage & Clinton Ave.—Both Phones

IS NOW OPEN FOR SURGICAL AND MEDICAL CASES. NO CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ADMITTED.

Open to all Ethical Physicians—Building New and Modern Conveniences
S. C. GAGE MISS ANNIE CALDWELL MRS. B. F. SHELL
Surgeon in Charge. Graduate Nurse in Charge. Matron

THE
Abilene Dry Goods
COMPANY
ABILENE - TEXAS

Special Offerings for February

at the Abilene Dry Goods Company to superinduce early buying. Thousands of dollars worth of New Goods are already being received and marked special to open the season. Many thousands of items are marked at cut prices, very much under value. Economical buyers can find it to their interest to visit this store where every item you buy is guaranteed to be the lowest, and where too, if you are not satisfied you can get your money back.



Mrs. W. H. Dickson, Editor

A social meeting of the Young Woman's Auxiliary of the W. M. U. was given at the ever hospital home of Mrs. Victor Harris Thursday afternoon Feb. 16 with Mrs. Harris hostess for the afternoon. A nice program was carried out which included a sketch of Washington's life by Miss Ethel Roberts. A number of pretty songs were sung. The contests were unique as well as enjoyable.

In the first contest the guests were given pictures that represent events in the Washington period. They were to guess what each picture represented in this contest. Misses Ethel Roberts and Irene Swann tied for honors.

Next each guest was blindfolded and given a cut out picture of Martha Washington and a complete wardrobe with instructions to dress her in the proper style and fashion. But alas our dear mother Washington was too much surprised at the XX Century ideas to select a Merkel maiden to be her maid in wait although they tried their best to please. Dainty refreshments were served.

The XX Century club had a very interesting meeting Saturday afternoon. Miss Duncan Browning lead the lesson and complimented the class on having a good lesson. Miss Elizabeth Browning of Kentucky, was a pleasant guest. Miss Mackey will be the next leader.

XX Century Club.

Henry VIII, Act III, scenes 1 and 2.

1. Comment on the fitness of the opening song to the spirit of the first scene. What presage is there of the conclusion of the scene?

2. In what frame of mind does Katherine receive Wolsey and Campeius? What does Wolsey say is the purpose of their visit?

3. In the scene with Wolsey and Campeius what new things does Katherine advance in her defense? What part does her sense of queenly dignities as her rights bear to her other claims? Compare her with Heroine. Which case more moves to pity?

4. In Wolsey's words "The hearts of princes kiss obedience so much they love it," what far reaching principle does he suggest of a policy that he helped to establish in England and which held sway until the fall of the Stuarts?

5. Does the scene close with a feeling of Katherine's defeat?

6. With what motive does the open oppression against Wolsey begin? How is it that he swayed the king.

7. What are the two counts that the king has against Wolsey which end his downfall? How are they dramatically presented?

8. Why was Wolsey opposed to Anne Bullen?

9. Was the incident of Wolsey's mistake in sending to the king the unruling of his personal possessions historically true? Characterize the scene in which the king breaks with Wolsey.

10. To what uses did Wolsey intend to put the wealth that he had accumulated?

11. Is there a failure to sustain the level of the scene between the points marked by the exit of the king and the farewell address of Wolsey?

Haydn Music Club.

The Haydn Music Club met in regular session Tuesday Feb. 21., at Miss Mackey's studio. First each member answered to roll call with names of famous musicians. The minutes were then read and approved. The election of officers resulted in the following officers being elected: President, Miss Strossy Martin; Vice President, Miss Stella Martin; Secretary, Bernice Rainbolt.

Miss Virginia Mackey conducted the lesson on Bach assisted by Misses Stella Martin, Roxie Moon, Fay Allen and Ethel Jenkins.

The following program was carried out: Miss Bernice Rainbolt, Aravaunt; Miss Jewel Tipton, On The Pier; Miss Ethel Jenkins, Heller, op. 45, No. 2; Miss Mildred Hogue, Sparkling Stars; Miss Lucile Sutphen, Heather Rose; Miss Louise Warren, Coming By; Miss Stella Martin, Fidelity; Miss Fay Allen, Soiree Dantesante; Miss Bessie Touchstone, Gavotte Modern. Program committee Music Roxie Moon and Fay Allen.

The Haydn Music Club will have monthly meetings. The members are deserving of much praise for their careful preparation for these meetings. Miss Mackey has the gift of music and is ever ready to assist the club.

Young Ladies Auxiliary.

Program for the Young Ladies Auxiliary of the W. M. U. for March 2.

Leader, Miss Ova Teaff.
Scripture lesson, Prov. 16.
Song and prayer.
The life we live as members—Miss Dollie Teaff.

The church and its mission—Miss Nola Whitley.
Song.

Winning souls—Miss Maxie Banner.

The society will meet with Miss Fannie Swann.

At their last business meeting Miss Nola Whitley was elected president to fill that office left vacant by the moving away of Mrs. J. A. Bell. Miss Ethel Roberts was elected vice-president.

The ladies of the Woman's Home Mission Society of the Methodist Church met in their regular meeting Feb. 21, and the following officers were elected: Mrs. C. D. Mims, President; Mrs. H. C. Williams, 1st. Vice President; Mrs. J. W. Jennings, 2nd. Vice President;

Mrs. Carry Wheeler, 3rd. Vice President; Mrs. H. C. Burroughs, Secretary; Mrs. R. A. Martin, Cor. Secretary; Mrs. L. Sparkman, Treasurer; Mrs. Touchstone, agent for "The Missionary Voice;" Mrs. Ida Armstrong, Press Supt. A good attendance is desired at the next meeting March 6, as the new officers will be installed and other matters of importance to be attended to. Let the first meeting of the year excel any of the past year.

B. Y. P. E. Program.

Subject for Sunday Feb. 26, "Foreign Missions." Leader, Miss Winnie Warren.

Roll call, answer with scripture verses.

Scripture reading, John 3:16; Rom. 5:6-11.

Prayer.
Song No. 110.

Talk, giving some account of our work.—Miss Ethel Roberts.

What we do not offer non-christian people.—Miss Carol Rister.

Song No. 72.

What we do offer and urge non-christian.—Miss Ina Wheeler.

Collection.
Song No. 112.

Benediction.

Ladies Aid Program.

The Ladies Aid Society of the Baptist church will render the following program Monday afternoon 3:00 o'clock, Feb. 27.

Leader.—Mrs. Swann.
Hymn.

Bible reading.—Mrs. N. Roberts.

Prayer.
Paper, Prayer in missionary meeting.—Mrs. J. N. Teaff.

Paper, How to interest the individual in missions.—Mrs. P. B. Causseaux.

Paper, Foreign missions.—Mrs. Smeltzer.

General discussion of missions and how our society can help in this cause.

Prayer for more laborers.—Mrs. Taggart.

Poem, The mustard seed.—Mrs. Britain.

Dismission.

The Ladies Aid Society of the Southside Christian church will hold their regular meeting Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 28. This is an important meeting and let all the ladies of the church be present at Mrs. W. H. Dickson next Tuesday at 3:30.

Owing to the rain last Friday the Zenobia Club did not meet. They will meet in regular session March 3, with Mrs. H. C. Burroughs, who will conduct the lesson on Japan.

Mrs. L. Sparkman came in Friday evening from a three months visit in Arrington, Tenn. Her father, Mr. J. T. Jordan, has been seriously ill all winter and his condition is not much improved but we are hopeful of better news and that he will regain his usual good health with the coming of the spring.

Miss Jessie O'Briant is back from St. Louis.

Failed in Health

"My mother died six years ago," writes Miss Ruth Ward, of Jerseyville, Ill., "and left me to care for six children. I had never been strong; and this, with the shock of her death, was too much for me.

"I failed in health. I was tired all the time and did not want to go anywhere, nor care for company. I had the headache all the time and such bearing-down pains.

"A very dear friend advised me to take Cardui, as it had done her so much good, so I commenced to use it and now I am in good health."

Take CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

Women's pains are relieved or prevented and women's strength is quickly restored, by Cardui, the woman's tonic. You yourself know best if you need it, or not.

If you do need it, do not delay, but commence to use it at once. Every day of delay, only lets you slide further down the hill.

Don't wait, then, but begin to take Cardui today, for its use, no matter how prolonged, cannot harm you and will surely do you good.

Write to: Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions, and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent free.

IRRIGATED LANDS

Irrigated lands in the lower Rio Grand Valley.
Season all the year round. Prices and terms reasonable. Correspondence Solicited.

A. B. HIGHSMITH :: San Benito, Texas

DOCTORS ADKISSON & MILLER

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

SPECIAL OFFICE TREATMENT FOR DISEASES OF EYE, EAR, NOSE, THROAT, CHRONIC AILMENTS

GLASSES FITTED

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DENTIST

Office Over The F. & M. National Bank
MERKEL, TEXAS

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BUTCHERS

Fresh Meats and Fresh Bread
Phone 77 for Prompt Delivery
First door west of Hammans Bros.

Abilene Steam Laundry

H. M. Warren, Agent

Baskets shipped Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, returned Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Work called for and delivered promptly or received at the City Barber shop. I will appreciate your patronage.

H. M. Warren

Phone 48 In City Barber Shop

CHURCH NOTICES

[We will be glad to make any announcements of services, special programs or other items where no revenue is to be received, free of charge. Notices of entertainments for revenue or charging admission, at half the regular price.—Editor.]

At The Baptist Church.

Sunday school 10 a. m.; preaching 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunbeam Band 3 p. m.; Junior Union 4 p. m.; Senior Union 6 p. m.; Ladies Aid on Monday 3 p. m.; Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:15 p. m.; Choir practice Friday 7:30 p. m. We cordially invite the public. W. C. Taggart, Pastor.

At The Presbyterian Church.

Preaching every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Sunday School 9:45 a. m.; Y. P. S. C. E. 6:30 p. m.; prayer meeting Thursday 7:30 p. m.; Ladies Missionary Society Monday 4 p. m. after each 3rd Sunday; regular session meetings on Thursday 7:30 p. m. on or before the first full moon in the month. Geo. A. Crane, Pastor.

Northside Church of Christ.

Bible study every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock; Communion services Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock; Prayer meeting every Friday evening at 7:30. Preaching 1st Sunday in each month. Every body cordially invited to attend these services. Elder Geo. W. Cypert.

Methodist Church Services.

Sunday school 9:45 a. m.; Preaching 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Intermediate and Junior Leagues at 2:30 p. m.; Senior League 6:30 p. m.; Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:15 p. m., followed by Teacher Training Class meeting; Choir practice Saturday 7:15 p. m.; Woman's Home Mission Society meets first and third Mondays at 2:30 p. m.; Woman's Foreign Missionary Society meets second Monday at 2:30 p. m. You are cordially invited. Strangers are welcome. A. M. Martin, Pastor.

Child Gored by Cow.

Late yesterday afternoon when Bob Mauldin was out at his barn feeding the stock his little two year old son came into the lot and was playing just outside the barn, when it was attacked by a cow and frightfully gored. The animal's horn struck the child on the right eye. It was necessary to remove a portion of the cheek bone, but it is not thought by the attending physician that the sight will be injured.

Mr. Mauldin heard the child scream and ran to the door in time to see the little fellow tossed in front of the door. He says he was greatly surprised that the cow should attack the child as the animal was always thought to be gentle.—Ballinger Ledger.

Struck a rich Mine.

S W Bends, of Coal City, Ala., says he struck a perfect mine of health in Dr King's New Life Pills for the cured him of liver and kidney trouble after 12 years of suffering they are the best pills on earth for constipation, malaria, headache, dyspepsia, debility 25c at H C burroughs

A Card of Thanks.

The brothers and sister of E. O. Baker and family join with them in expressing their sincere thanks through the columns of the Merkel Mail to the many kind friends who so nobly assisted in their recent bereavement. And we all agree no city regardless of size has more kindhearted citizens than does the fair city of Merkel. May they all ever be blessed with all the happiness this life can give.

A Common Cold

We claim that if catchin sold could be avoided some of the most dangerous and fatal diseases would never be heard of. A cold often acts as a culture bed for germs of influenza, diphtheria and scarlet fever. Consumption, pneumonia, and other fatal diseases are often formed by the germ of a cold. There is no doubt that the germ of a cold favors the development of these diseases. That is why this remedy has proved so successful in preventing and curing colds. It not only cures your cold, but it also minimizes the risk of contracting dangerous diseases. For more information write to Rust & McCauley Co.



What Does Your
HOME
Mean to You?
COMFORT
YES
MACEY



Well then why not get a new piece of Furniture, new Rug for the living room or parlor and put the older one in the bed room? Replace the old window shades with new ones. You will be surprised how much more pleasant things will look, and more comfortable it will seem around home. Did you ever try it? You are invited to come in and look around at your leisure and let us figure with you. We are always glad to have you call on us.

Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co

Fire Boys' Benefit OPERA HOUSE Friday Night March 3 "Girl From L Triangle Ranch" BY ALL HOME TALENT

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Harry Logan—A young Adventurer and new Sheriff of the County..... Frank J. Ferrier
Harvey Wesley—A fugitive from justice and leader of Border Outlaws..... Vernon R. Boring
Tom Claxton—His associate..... Ross Ferrier
Solomon Donahue—Who always gets the worst of everything..... Parker Sharp
Caleb Push—A hustler and addicted to "butting in" at times..... Lester Magness
Eclipse—A colored ranchman..... J. Miller Elliott
Wilkins—A cattle thief..... Olly Cordell
Romero—A border outlaw..... Andy Brown
Bradley—A border outlaw..... A. G. Double
Franklin Barton—Owner of the L Triangle Ranch..... Duke Evans
Ethel Barton—The girl from the ranch..... Miss Agness Hall
Bolivar—A young lady "reared" on the ranch..... Miss Lyska Pitzer
Nathalie—An adventuress and queen of the cattle thieves..... Miss Annie T. Daniel
Mrs. Caleb Push—A loving wife pursuing a forgetful husband..... Miss Ora Long

SYNOPSIS

ACT I.

In front of Gold Nugget store and hotel. Fight between Wesley and Claxton. Push gets the best of Donahue. Ethel and Wesley. Harry Logan interferes. Outlaws attack Logan. Bolivar and Eclipse take a hand. Wesley shoots Barton and accuses Logan. "I swear I am innocent."

ACT II.

Outlaws' den in Mexico. Barton disguised as Red Hawk. Bolivar and Eclipse get busy. Logan a prisoner. Outlaws capture Ethel. Logan frees himself. The fight. "The building shall be blown up." The powder lighted. Mrs. Push spoils the plan. "Kill the girl first." Baffled by Bolivar.

ACT III.

L Triangle Ranch. "Strike cowards." Barton stops Claxton. Bolivar and Donahue. Barton reveals his identity. Wesley shoots to kill, but in vain. The end of the outlaws.

Time—1899. Place—New Mexico.

Tickets on Sale at Elite

Bring your butter, eggs and chickens to W. M. Jenkins on Edwards street.

CROUP stopped in 30 minutes sure with Dr. Shoop's Croup Remedy. One test will surely prove. No vomiting, no distress. A safe and pleasing syrup—50c. Druggists.

W. M. Jenkins pays the highest prices for chickens, turkeys and eggs.

OUR FRATERNITIES

Merkel Lodge I. O. O. F. No. 355, meets each Tuesday night in the Odd Fellows hall. R. C. Hampton, N. G., John Banner, Secretary.

Merkel Rebekah Lodge No. 14, meets each 1st and 3rd Thursday nights in Odd Fellows hall. Mrs. Rosa Newberry, N. G., James Shaffer, Secretary.

Merkel Lodge A. F. & A. M. meets Saturday night on or before the first full moon of each month in the Masonic hall. W. B. Farmer, W. M., Henry Hicks, Secretary.

Eastern Star meets in the Masonic hall the first Monday night after regular meeting of A. F. & A. M. Mrs. H. T. Merritt, W. M., Mrs. G. H. Adams, Secretary.

Merkel Camp W. O. W. No. 719 meets 2nd and 4th Friday nights in the Woodmen hall. Rev. Geo. A. Crane, C. C., Seth Hamilton, Clerk.

Merkel Grove W. O. W. Circle No. 563 meets each 1st and 3rd Friday afternoon in the Woodmen hall. Miss Etta Burns, Guardian, Miss Pearl Rawling, Clerk.

Arrested

a cough that has been hanging on for over two months by taking Ballars's Horehound Syrup. If you have a cough, dont wait—stop it at once with this wonderful remedy. Splendid for coughs, cold on chest, influenza, bronchitis and pulmonary troubles. Price 25c, 50c, and \$1.00. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Sweetwater Dam Breaks.

Sweetwater, Feb. 18.—After yesterday's immense rain so much water came down Kildugan creek as to fill the new Santa Fe lake to overflowing. It swept over the top of the dam, though the spillway is 100 yards wide, and finally undid the work of months by washing out a section of the concrete 100 feet long and scattering it along the valley below.

About 150 feet of track were washed out and one house was swept away and has not been heard of. Large trees were snapped off at the roots, but by a freak of nature a tent in the valley below was left standing, though the torrent of water had swept all around it. The damage will be repaired as soon as possible.

The whole country is wetter than it has been for years. The oat crop is assured and the season in the ground will give everything a good sendoff. There is an abundance of stock water. The rainfall is estimated at three and half inches. The rain lasted for 19 hours.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the Most Popular Because it is the Best.

"I have sold Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for the past eight years and find it to be one of the best selling medicines on the market. For babies and young children there is nothing better in the line of cough syrups," says Paul Allen, Plain Dealing, La. This remedy not only cures the coughs, colds and croup so common among young children, but it is pleasant and safe for them to take. For sale by Rust & McCauley Co.

Eclipse of the Sun.

During the present year, 1911, there will be two eclipses of the sun. The first of these will be total and is scheduled to occur on April 28. Except in the extreme northern portion it will be visible to the whole of the United States. It will be visible also in Mexico and the far south, the totality extending from Australia across the Pacific ocean to Central America. In the extreme eastern portion of the United States the phenomenon will occur about sunset and therefore may be partially observed. The second eclipse will fall on October 22, but will be invisible to the United States.

Lame Shoulder.

This is a common form of muscular rheumatism. No internal treatment is needed. Apply Chamberlain's Liniment freely three times a day and a quick cure is certain. This liniment has proven especially valuable for muscular and chronic rheumatism. Sold by Rust & McCauley Co.

ONIONS GROW IN MERKEL COUNTRY

A farmer in south Texas has planted 200 acres to onions, but prior to his undertaking the largest onion field in the state was forty acres.

Now, this is an honor which should have been held all of the time by some enterprising farmer of the Merkel country for none acquainted with our soil and climatic conditions will doubt that the crop would be a profitable one. The 200 acre patch mentioned above is on irrigated land and this is not necessary in our country.

There is a community northwest of our little city known by all old-timers as "Onion Ridge." This name was a result of the success of a farmer with onions. He planted every year five to ten acres and made money out of the crop. All during the winter R. J. Adcock, a very successful gardener has had onions to eat and sell and the same is true of many other gardens in our city.

The adaptability of much of our soil to this particular crop and the great amount of water to be secured by wells and surface tanks should serve to stimulate interest in the onion industry.

Reason Enthroned.

Because meats are so tasty they are consumed in great excess. This leads to stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation. Revise your diet, let reason and not a pampered appetite control, then take a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will soon be well again. Try it. For sale at Rust & McCauley's drug store. Samples free.

Read the Mail. 1.00 a year.

WOODROOF BROTHERS

NEW GOODS ARE ARRIVING DAILY

NEW SILKS ARE HERE

The new silks are very attractive. The styles are unexcelled and prices moderate. We invite you to come and take a look at these silks. All the popular shades are shown in the different grades at 35c, 50c, 75c and **\$1.00**

Visit Our Footwear Department

A large and swell assortment of footwear for men, women and children. Oxfords and pumps in all the new and stylish lasts are now being shown here. Prices from \$1 to **\$4.00**

First Shipment of Spring Skirts

The new Skirts are here and are elegantly tailored in the new Paris fashion. Made of the best quality Pacific Panama and the new all-wool crisp Voil, in black and colors at \$4.00 to **\$15.00**

You will find our stock as always heretofore---to be complete in all of our departments and always new and up to date.

CALL TO SERVICE S. S. WORKERS

To Every Well-wisher of Sunday Schools: This week is the time set for a united, aggressive campaign on the part of all protestant denominations of the State to gather One Million members into the Sunday Schools on next Sunday the 26, and to be a universal state-wide rally day.

This great work is projected under the leadership of the Texas State Sunday School Association, and is the biggest movement ever undertaken by any state, but it can be done if every worker will do his best.

There are approximately Four Millions of people in the State, hence one out of every four must be gathered in. Will you do what you can in this laudable endeavor? If so talk to every one you meet.

Let our slogan be "One Million in the Sunday Schools February 26, 1911." A Worker.

Worn Out

That's the way you feel about the lungs when you have a hacking cough. It's foolishness to let it go on and trust to luck to get over it, when Ballard's Horehound Syrup will stop the cough and heal the lungs. Price 25c, 50c, and \$1.00 Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Killing Near Brady.

Brady, Feb. 18.—Dewitt Craig of Salt Gap, was killed by Fred Slaughter at Eden last night in a ballroom. Slaughter surrendered to the Concho county officers. Craig is the son of Newt Craig, a prominent citizen.

"The Girl from 'L Triangle' Ranch," Opera House March 3

OUR SUBSCRIPTION BARGAINS

\$1.75--Merkel Mail and Abilene Semi-Weekly Reporter--\$1.75

Clubbing Offer No. 2

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